

# **Biomass-related R&D and Non-R&D Activities**

Prepared for:

Biomass R&D Board  
for presentation to the  
Biomass R&D Technical Advisory Committee

February 24, 2003

Presented by:

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White House Task Force on Waste Prevention and Recycling  
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February 24, 2003

# Overview

- **John Howard is the new Federal Environmental Executive (FEE)**
- **Presidential Commitment**
  - President Bush has stated clearly that he expects the federal government to lead by example, to be a good neighbor, and to be a good environmental steward. This Administration is moving forward to implement existing environmental, energy, and transportation executive orders; is implementing President Bush's recent energy efficiency orders; and is looking for ways to make further improvements.

# Overview

- **OFEE's New Mission Statement**

- The OFEE will play a significant role in this effort. To reflect this commitment, the mission statement is expanded so that the Office is now “promoting sustainable environmental stewardship throughout the federal government.”

- **OFEE's Vision**

- Better integration of green procurement into all the federal purchasing of products and services.

# Overview

- **OFEE Priorities**

- The OFEE has set six priorities to guide its upcoming work
  - Recycling
  - Green Procurement
  - Green Buildings
  - Electronics Stewardship
  - Green Jobs
  - Environmental Management Systems

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# Overview

- **Under Executive Order 13101, the FEE chairs the White House Task Force on Waste Prevention and Recycling**
  - The TF provides national direction for federal agencies and reports the government's progress for waste prevention, recycling, and the purchase of recycled-content and environmentally preferable services and products, including **procurement of biobased products**.
  - The TF is directed by a Steering Committee composed of the FEE, the Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, and the Administrator of the Office of Management and Budget's Office of Federal Procurement Policy.

# OFEE's connection to biomass

- **OFEE's connection to biomass is through responsibilities regarding green purchasing**
  - The affirmative procurement of biobased products, as required by the Act, holds promise to further the federal government's contributions as a good environmental steward.
  - Farm Bill Act 2002; Title IX; Section 9002 on Federal Procurement of Biobased Products is a focus area given OFEE's priority for EO 13101 and **green procurement, including biobased products.**
  - Under EO 13101, OFEE continues to track the government's progress for biobased products.
  - The FEE is a member of the Biomass Board

# Program activities supporting biomass-related activities

- Review and comment of USDA's draft *Federal Register* notice on "Guidelines for Designating Biobased Products for Federal Preference."
- Convener of the federal working group on green products and greening the government, with focus of how to make it easier for federal purchasers to buy green, which can also include buy biobased.
- Annual White House Closing the Circle Awards includes biobased.
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# **OFEE recommends to the Biomass R&D Board that ...**

- **They consider serving a coordinating role for university work to avoid duplication of effort and wasted resources.**
  - Multiple efforts exist at the university level to engage in biomass R&D, including biobased product development.
- **They recognize that the buy biobased policies, in addition to intended goals of building markets for biobased products, are also environmental stewardship policies.**
  - Existing environmental procurement and affirmative procurement programs embrace the biobased rules as another aspect to advance the federal purchasers role in environmental stewardship.